

Section Two

Plan Adoption

Contents of this Section

- 2.1 IFR Requirements for Plan Adoption
- 2.2 Plan Adoption by the Governor of Louisiana

2.1 IFR Requirements for Plan Adoption

DMA 2000 compliant Standard State Hazard Mitigation Plans must be formally adopted by the appropriate elected official(s). In the State of Louisiana, the Governor has the authority to act on behalf of the State in this regard.

The IFR contains two specific requirements relative to the adoption of the Plan by the State of Louisiana:

- **Requirement §201.4(c)(6):** "The plan must be formally adopted by the State prior to submittal to [FEMA] for final review and approval."
- **Requirement §201.4(c)(7):** "The plan must include assurances that the State will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with 44 CFR 13.11(c). The State will amend its plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in State or Federal laws and statutes as required in 44 CFR 13.11(d)."

2.2 Plan Adoption by the Governor of Louisiana

Adoption of the State of Louisiana Hazard Mitigation Plan by the Governor of the State affirms the commitment of the State to pursue the activities and actions identified in the Plan.

Following this page is a formal letter of adoption on behalf of the State of Louisiana, [to be] signed by Governor Blanco on [date to be inserted]⁸, which incorporates and satisfies both IFR requirements (§201.4(c)(6) and §201.4(c)(7)).

⁸ **Note to Draft Plan Reviewers:** As noted in Section One, the final version of the Plan will be ready for the Governor's signature in April 2005.

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[date to be determined]

Mr. Gary Jones, Acting Regional Director
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VI
Federal Regional Center, Room 206
800 N. Loop 288
Denton, TX 76201-3698

RE: State of Louisiana DMA 2000 Standard State Hazard Mitigation Plan

Dear Mr. Jones:

I am pleased to submit for your review the State of Louisiana Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan has been prepared in response to the Standard State Hazard Mitigation Plan requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (44 CFR 201.4). Based on the recommendations of the State of Louisiana Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (OHSEP) and the State Hazard Mitigation Team (SHMT), this letter represents my formal adoption of this plan on behalf of the State of Louisiana as the blueprint for our future actions to reduce the devastating impacts of natural and manmade disasters on our residents, businesses and property owners.

The actions included in the plan reflect the major hazards that Louisiana faces including flooding, high winds from hurricanes, and subsidence, among others. Recommended actions in the plan range from working with local communities to improve their capabilities to plan for and implement meaningful hazard mitigation projects to seeking ways to incorporate better hazard mitigation practices within our own agencies as we carry out the work of our State government.

In addition, I certify that the State will comply with all applicable Federal statutes and regulations in effect with respect to the periods for which it receives grant funding, in compliance with 44 CFR 13.11(c). The State will amend the plan whenever necessary to reflect changes in state or Federal laws and statutes as required in 44 CFR 13.11(d).

I appreciate the efforts of your staff in working with the OHSEP and the SHMT to develop this plan. I am also hoping that we can continue to work as partners with your agency as we move into the implementation stage of this important project. I look forward to receiving the approval of our plan by your agency so we can begin the work of implementing the recommendations in earnest.

Mr. Jones

Page 2

[date to be determined]

If you or your staff has any comments, please contact Col. Perry (Jeff) Smith, the Acting State Hazard Mitigation Officer at 225.922.1503. Again, thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor